

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1057

INFO USDEL MTN GNNEVA

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 04206

PASS STR POMERANZ

E. O. 11652

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE US/EC TECHNICAL-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS ON GOVERNMENT
PROCUREMENT

1. EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL JEAN PIERRE DERISBOURG CALLED THE MISSION ON APRIL 27 TO INFORM US THAT EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN US/EC TECHNICAL-LEVEL TALKS ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT DURING THE PERIOD MAY 27-JUNE 5. THEY WOULD, HOWEVER, BE AVAILABLE BEFORE OR AFTER THESE DATES. DERISBOURG SAID THE COMMISSION WOULD PREFER THAT THE TALKS BE HELD IN BRUSSELS OR GENEVA FOR BUDGETARY REASONS.

2. DERISBOURG THOUGHT THE CONSULTATIONS ON FEBRUARY 26 HAS BEEN USEFUL IN CLEARING UP SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS, E.G., ENTITIES AS OPPOSED TO PRODUCTS NOT COVERED BY THE CODE, AND TWO LEVELS OF OBLIGATIONS. WE TOLD HIM WE WOULD LIKE FURTHER ELUCIDATION OF THE SECOND LEVEL OF OBLIGATION (BEST EFFORTS, NON-DISCRIMINATION) AND WILL MEET WITH HIM THE MORNING OF MAY 4 TO DISCUSS THIS AND OTHER ISSUES. HE REMARKED THAT DURING THE FEBRUARY 26 TALKS, THE EC DID NOT RAISE USG QUOTE
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EFFORTS UNQUOTE REGARDING STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND

WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE FROM US ON THIS
ISSUE.

3. COMMENT: IF WASHINGTON OR USDEL MTN GENEVA HAS ANY
QUESTIONS THEY WOULD LIKE US TO RAISE WITH DERISBOURG
IN ADDITION TO THOSE COMING OUT OF THE FEBRARY 26
MEETING, PLEASE LET US KNOW. END COMMENT. HINTON

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